

August 28, 2008

Allan D. Lucht
Director, Public Works
U.S. Army Garrison Alaska
724 Postal Service Loop #4500
Fort Richardson, AK 99505-4500

NATIONAL
TRUST
FOR
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION

Western
OFFICE

Re: Consulting Party Request for the Nike Site Summit Project Near Anchorage,
Alaska

Dear Mr. Lucht,

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is concerned with the Army's proposed demolition of a substantial part of the Nike Site Summit Historic District, near Anchorage, Alaska. We respectfully request to participate as a consulting party in the review process under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) pursuant to 36 C.F.R. §§ 800.2(c)(5), 800.3(f)(3).

Nike Site Summit is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as an historic district of national-level significance. It retains exceptional historic integrity and is one of the last remaining intact Cold War missile sites in the nation. The Army has proposed to demolish twelve historic structures at the site, representing 44% of the fabric of the district.

The National Park Service (NPS) recently concluded that the Army's proposed action would have a serious adverse effect on the resource. In its report prepared upon request by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, NPS found that nine of the twelve structures proposed to be demolished are viable candidates for long-term stabilization. In light of these conclusions we believe the National Trust can have a helpful role as a participant in the consultation process.

Interests of the National Trust

The National Trust is a private, nonprofit organization chartered by Congress in 1949 to promote public participation in the preservation of our nation's heritage, and to further the historic preservation policy of the United States. See 16 U.S.C. § 468. With the strong support of more than 283,000 members, the National Trust works to protect significant historic sites and to advocate historic preservation as a fundamental value in programs and policies at all levels of government. The National Trust has seven regional offices around the country, including our Western Office in San Francisco, California, which is specifically responsive to preservation concerns in Alaska.

Western Office

5 Third Street, Suite 707
San Francisco, CA 94103

P 415.947.0692

F 415.947.0699

E wro@nthp.org

Serving: AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, WA &
Pacific Island territories

National Office

1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036

P 202.588.6000

F 202.588.6038

E info@nthp.org

www.PreservationNation.org

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The National Trust also has been designated by Congress as a member of the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, which gives the Trust a unique place in the Section 106 process. 16 U.S.C. § 470i(a)(8). We have participated as a consulting party in a wide variety of Section 106 reviews with many different federal agencies.

Please include the National Trust in any distribution of public notices of meetings, and for the circulation of any documents for comment. We would appreciate receiving copies of notices at the following address:

Brian R. Turner, Esq.
National Trust for Historic Preservation
5 Third Street, Suite 707
San Francisco, CA 94103
Brian_Turner@nthp.org
415-947-0692

We appreciate your consideration of our consulting party request, and we look forward to working with you as the Section 106 review process moves forward with the Nike Site Summit project.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian R. Turner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Brian R. Turner, Esq.
Western Office

Cc: (by email)

Don Klima, ACHP
Addison D. Davis, IV, Army Federal Preservation Officer
Doug Gasek, SHPO
Ted Burkedal, Chief, Division of Cultural Resources, NPS Alaska
Darrel Hess, Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission
Jim Renkert, Friends of Nike Site Summit
Fran Seager-Boss, Alaska Association for Historic Preservation